

**AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the first paragraph of the specification located on page 1, with the following replacement paragraph:

This application is a continuation in part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/692,205 filed October 20, 2000, entitled "Improved Method for Production of Heterologous Gene Products in Lactic Acid Bacteria.", now abandoned, the contents of which are incorporated herein in their entirety to the extent that it is consistent with this invention and application.